

January 26, 2024



Daily Reflections

PEACE BE WITH YOU

By Julie Mussché

Excerpts From Today's First Reading

*Paul, an Apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God
for the promise of life in Christ Jesus,
to Timothy, my dear child:
grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father
and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-2

*Paul, a slave of God and Apostle of Jesus Christ
for the sake of the faith of God's chosen ones
and the recognition of religious truth,
in the hope of eternal life
that God, who does not lie, promised before time began,
who indeed at the proper time revealed his word
in the proclamation with which I was entrusted
by the command of God our savior, to Titus, my true child in our common*

TITUS 1:1-4

Reflection

Today celebrates the Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, bishops of Ephesus and Crete respectively. Both were associates and friends with St. Paul, and aided him in working with various Christian communities around the Mediterranean and Asia Minor. They were also reconcilers among diverse and sometimes contentious and evolving groups.

It is amazing to consider how quickly what became Christianity grew from a small Jewish sect following the Great Commissioning. The fledgling faith spread along trade routes and drew people of all backgrounds, in particular those who were vulnerable and disenfranchised within the predominantly Greco-Roman influenced culture. With diversity of thought, ethnicity, traditional beliefs, and economic means, it is not surprising that there were conflicts among members of the nascent community. Some of the disputes were doctrinal, some dietary, and some classist or based on ethnic prejudice. Whatever the case, Timothy and Titus helped to heal and mend differences as well as right communities who had gone askew.

Looking back over thousands of years at the challenges carried during a time of religious or spiritual transformation, perhaps there are similarities that we can draw on when viewing our present times.



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For Pondering

- What does it mean to be a reconciler and an ambassador of Jesus in today's world?
 - What are the conflicts that need to be reconciled in your milieu? What needs repair?
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For Prayer

Prayer to Saint Timothy and Saint Titus

*Calling to mind your apostolic and reconciling ministry,
Saint Timothy and Saint Titus,
help me to be God's loving presence in the world,
preaching the Gospel through example,
and helping to repair our broken world.*

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